

The original patent, or an affidavit or declaration as to loss or inaccessibility of the original patent, must be received before this reissue application can be allowed. See 37 CFR 1.178.

Accordingly, submitted herewith is a paper entitled "Surrender of Original Patent" having attached thereto original U.S. Patent No. 5,774,106 on which the present reissue application is based.

The indication that claims 1-16 are allowed is acknowledged.

Claims 17-28 were rejected under 35 USC 251 as being based upon a defective reissue declaration. In explaining this rejection, the Examiner states as follows:

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.175(b)(1), a supplemental reissue oath/declaration under 37 CFR 1.175(b)(1) must be received before this reissue application can be allowed.

Claims 17-28 are rejected as being based upon a defective declaration under 35 U.S.C. 251. See 37 CFR 1.175. The nature of the defect is set forth above.

Receipt of an appropriate supplemental oath/declaration under 37 CFR 1.175(b)(1) will overcome this rejection under 35 U.S.C. 251. An example of acceptable language to be used in the supplemental oath/declaration is as follows:

"Every error in the patent which was corrected in the present reissue application, and is not covered by a prior oath/declaration submitted in this application, arose without any deceptive intention on the part of the applicant."

This rejection is based on the fact that the amendments to independent claims 17, 21, and 25 (from which claims 18-20,

22-24, and 26-28 depend) in the amendment of July 24, 2001, are not covered by the reissue declaration submitted on July 23, 1999.

Accordingly, pursuant to 37 CFR 1.175(b)(1)(ii), submitted herewith is a paper entitled "Submission of Supplemental Reissue Declaration" having attached thereto a supplemental reissue declaration under 37 CFR 1.175(b)(1).

In view of the submission of the supplemental reissue declaration under 37 CFR 1.175(b)(1), it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 17-28 under 35 USC 251 as being based upon a defective reissue declaration be withdrawn.

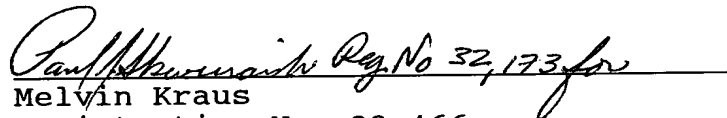
It is submitted that the Examiner's only rejection has been overcome, and that the application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application and an action of a favorable nature are respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, the applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any

overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli,
Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135
(500.33793R00).

Respectfully submitted,

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